

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4538

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

US MISSION NATO 681

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 3488

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, HU

SUBJ: EXCHANGE OF PARTY CARDS

1. HSWP CENTRAL COMMITTEE (CC) AT ITS SESSION OCTOBER 24 ISSUED COMMUNIQUE IN WHICH IT ANNOUNCED THAT EXCHANGE OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP CARDS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN 1976, IN ORDER " TO STRENGTHEN PARTY UNIT, INCREASE ACTIVITY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND PARTY MEMBERS, BROADEN CONNECTIONS WITH MASSES, AND PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION OF 11TH PARTY RESOLUTION."

2. THAT PARTY CARDS WOULD BE EXCHANGED WAS FIRST ANNOUNCED AT 11TH PARTY CONGRESS LAST MARCH. NORMALLY, EXCHANGE OF PARTY CARDS PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTY LEADERS TO SCREEN MEMBERSHIP IN ORDER TO WEED OUT INCOMPETENTS, DISIDENTS, POLITICALLY WEAK AND INACTIVE ELEMENTS, OPPORTUNISTS, ETC. THIS, IN PART, IS UNDOUBTEDLY STILL TRUE. THE 11TH PARTY CONGRESS PLACED GREAT EMPHASIS ON GIVING HSWP MEMBERSHIP MORE OF A BLUE-COLLAR AND LESS OF AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTELLECTUAL CAST. DESPITE CONCERN WITH MAINTAINING

WORKER-INTELLECTUAL BALANCE IN FAVOR OF WORKERS, CRITERIA
FOR PARTY MEMBERSHIP STILL FAVORS THOSE WITH MORE
EDUCATION AND POLITICAL TALENT. REFERENCE IN COMMUNIQUE TO
"IMPLEMENTATION OF 11TH CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS" BOLSTERS
VIEW THAT EXCHANGE OF PARTY CARDS WILL BE UTILIZED TO
INCREASE PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS AS OPPOSED TO INTELLECTUALS
IN THE HSWP.

3. WE FIND THE TIMING OF THE HSWP ANNOUNCEMENT RE EXCHANGE
OF PARTY CARDS SOMEWHAT INTERESTING. AS NOTED ABOVE
ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PARTY MEMBERSHIP CARDS WERE TO BE EXCHANGED
WAS MADE SEVEN MONTHS AGO, YET CC IS JUST NOW GETTING
AROUND TO ANNOUNCING THAT EXCHANGE WILL TAKE PLACE IN
1976. WHAT EXPLAINS DELAY IS VERY LIKELY NECESSITY FOR
CC TO AWAIT OUTCOME OF HELSINKI CONFERENCE BEFORE DECIDING
ON GUIDELINES BEST SUITED TO INSURE PARTY ORTHODOXY AND
IDEOLOGICAL PURITY, WHILE AT SAME TIME GALVANIZING
PARTY RANK AND FILE INTO DEFENSE AGAINST INFILTRATION
OF WESTERN IDEAS AND INFLUENCE UNDER COVER OF DETENTE.
FACT THAT CC COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES THAT EXCHANGE OF CARDS
WILL TAKE PLACE IN 1976 SUGGESTS THAT PARTY LEADERS EVEN
NOW HAVE NOT MADE UP THEIR MINDS COMPLETELY RE FORMULATION
OF SUITABLE GUIDELINES FOR THOSE WHO ARE TO BE INVOLVED IN
SCREENING PROCESS.

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